

DATELINE:

LABOR & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A quarterly publication for employers from the Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development
September 2003

Premium rates recomputed and notices mailed

The annual employer premium rates re-computation process has taken place, and by now you should have already received your Notice of Employer's Premium Rate (LB-0482) for the new rate year that began July 1, 2003. You will want to make certain that you provide a copy of the rate notice to the person or payroll tax reporting service responsible for completing your quarterly Premium and Wage Report.

The balance in Tennessee's Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund on June 30, 2003, remained below \$600 million. As a result, Premium Rate Table 3 will continue in effect through the remainder of 2003.

Premium rates are recomputed annually to include experience rating factors (premiums paid, benefit charges, and taxable

payroll) from the most recently completed calendar year. For those employers who do not yet have an experience-based computed rate, the new employer rates are shown below. (Please note that the new employer rates for the construction and manufacturing industries show an increase over the rates that were previously in effect.)

Construction	7.5%
Manufacturing	7.5%
Mining	10.0%
All other industries	2.7%

New Workers' Compensation posting requirement in effect

As of July 1, 2003, all employers are required to display the "Tennessee Workers' Compensation Insurance" notice in a spot conspicuous to all employees. The notice spells out who is required to have workers' compensation insurance, whom to contact to confirm if an employer is subject to the workers' compensation law, and the name of the contact with the workers' compensation insurance company (if the employer is required to have worker's compensation). There is also space on the notice for the employer to add the name of his workplace representative to notify in event of a work-related injury. Finally, the notice has instructions on what an employer should do when an injury is reported.

The form is available at www.tn.gov/labor-wfd/wcomp.html and can be com-

pleted online and printed. The form is also available by calling the Workers' Compensation division (615)532-4812 or toll-free (800)332-2667.

Numbers

TN unemployment rate (July 2003)	5.4%
TN unemployment rate (July 2002)	5.4%
US unemployment rate (July 2003)	6.3%
US unemployment rate (July 2002)	5.9%
UI trust fund (July 2003)	\$576.5 million
UI trust fund (July 2002)	\$685.3 million

Routing Box

- ☐ Personnel Director
- ☐ Manager
- ☐ Payroll Officer
- ☐ Other

Save yourself the cost of a stamp

We encourage employers to use our new Internet-based Tennessee Premium and Wage Reporting System (TNPAWS). According to *thousands* of employers, it's easy to use. One benefit of using TNPAWS is it eliminates the need to mail anything to us if you have no Taxable Wages for the quarter.

Employers who used TNPAWS last quarter will complete the report by entering 3rd quarter wage amounts in the Current Wages column. Employers who have not used TNPAWS and want the system to calculate excess wages must enter wages paid in previous quarter(s) in the Year-to-Date column and 3rd quarter wage amounts in the Current Wages column.

TNPAWS is particularly easy to use for employers who have "No Payroll" for the quarter. It's as simple as registering (if you haven't already), logging into the system, selecting the "No Payroll" option, clicking "File Your Report", and printing a copy of the report for your records. Again, in this instance, nothing will need to be mailed to us.

If you have questions about TNPAWS, please visit our TNPAWS website at <http://tnpaws.tnui.net> or call us at (615) 741-2346.



Helpful tax payment information

State Unemployment Insurance (SUTA)

Due Quarterly

Payment by check:

TN Dept. of Labor &
Workforce Development
Box 101
Nashville, TN 37202-0101

Payment by ACH Credit:

www.tn.gov/labor-wfd/esdiv.html

- Click Employer Services
- Click Premium Reporting
- Click ACH Payment

Point of Contact:

Pat Howell
(615) 741-2346
(800) 344-8337

Federal Unemployment Insurance (FUTA)

Due annually by January 31

Payment by check:

Internal Revenue Service
Box 660095
Dallas, TX 75266-0095

Website

www.irs.gov
(800) 829-1040

Sales Tax

Due date determined by tax type

Mailing address:

TN Dept. of Revenue
Tax Payer Service
Address is determined by tax type

Website

www.tn.gov/revenue

Point of Contact:

Maria Kaihani
(615) 741-5876
(800) 342-1003

Find it in *The Source*

Want to see what the starting wage is in your area for employees you hope to hire?

Start up your computer.

Wondering whether any training provider near you offers the training needed by your employees? You don't have to know the names and Internet addresses of all the possible training providers to get to this quickly. Go to *The Source* at <http://www.tennessee.gov/labor-wfd/source/>

Want to review what wages are being paid workers with similar skills as those you employ in your geographic area? What about in other areas within the Tennessee? Go to *The Source* at <http://www.tennessee.gov/labor-wfd/source/>

Busy and need to do a quick national search of résumé services to find a computer network administrator? You've posted a job order with the department's job service office, and now you want to see what's available across the U.S. On one screen, with the click of a mouse, you can quickly contact the résumé sections of more than 15 Internet job market services. At the home page of *The Source*, click on "Services for Employers."

This information and much more is available in this new module for employers. Although *The Source* previously provided information to meet employers' needs, this information plus NEW services are now bundled in the "Services for Employers" module. *The Source* is now easier to get to, easier to use, and more helpful than ever.

Commissioner Neeley highlights marketing to employers

Marketing our department to employers has always been a challenge. In the past we have had a handful of marketing representatives in the field responsible for meeting with employers across the state, almost serving as independent sales representatives. Now Commissioner Neeley is focusing on this marketing unit to optimize our outreach to employers. In May, Commissioner Neeley announced a

new Marketing Services Unit under the direction of Employment Security Administrator Chris Betts. Joyce Carmichael has been named director of Marketing Services. Joyce will oversee 10 employer services specialists who will be responsible for reaching out to employers in different areas of the state. The unit has grown from three field representatives to 10 with a designated market area for each.

"This new Marketing Services Team is instrumental in getting the information about our programs and services to employers," said Commissioner Neeley. "We hope that more employers will take advantage of our products and services, particularly our new online services."

Betts said, "This new unit is beneficial to employers in several ways. We want to understand the needs of the business community, and our new employer services specialists will be able to address those needs to all employers, big and small." Betts continued, "With the addition of more field representatives we are confident our outreach to employers will improve and we will be able to follow up with employers more often."

"The new employer services specialists serve as liaisons to employers to provide them with services, products, and information that will assist them in running a successful business," said Carmichael. "We will be marketing all of the services of the Department of Labor & Workforce Development."

Employer services specialists are stationed in every area of the state and will be available to assist employers in numerous ways. Anyone wishing to find out more about the products and services offered by our department should contact the Marketing Services Section at (615) 741-7374.

Dateline: Labor & Workforce Development



Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development; June 2001; Pub. Auth. No. 337226; 115,000 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.04 per copy.

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